

Notes to the Town:

Welcome to 2005! You will have received as one of the first mailings of the year your 2005 property tax bill. At Town Hall we have received many comments and questions due to the listing of the **NYS Mandated Medicaid** line item on the bill. Here are some common answers we share daily.

Yes, This is a large dollar amount for Medicaid for Genesee County Residents to pay.

Yes, this amount represents only Genesee County Medicaid portion not New York State's.

Yes, It is printed to educate taxpayers for all to know the true cost of Genesee County taxpayers for NYS mandated services.

Yes, we hope you are frustrated enough to contact your elected representatives and share your anger, frustration and disbelief. Together we can impact the entire process and get some resolution to stop this fast growing fiscal responsibility on local property taxes. Add your voice!

As to the Water District line for Water District #6 and Extension #1. Questions we receive are as to how, why and when these charges are levied.

For Water District #6:

District was established on January 18, 2001 for the purpose of constructing a public water line for Rt. 19 south of the Village to Town Line and portions of Cole and Perry Road by an affirmative vote of more than 51% population and assessed value.

Funding was accepted through a loan and grant package from USDA Rural Development on August 21, 2002.

Construction began in Spring 2003. Water became available to district residents fall of 2003.

Water District owners were billed annually for their portion of the interest only on the debt service in 2003 and 2004 on the January tax bills.

As the project has been completed, funding is permanent. Debt and interest is being charged for the first time in 2005.

Permanent financing is the responsibility of the water district owners for 38 years.

The per unit charge for Water District #6 is \$263.23

Water Extension #1 owners on portions of Selden, Randall and West Bergen Roads have quite similar answers to their questions.

Debt and interest is charged for the first time on the 2005 tax bill. The per unit charge is \$498.77.

The district was formed in 2001, construction began spring 2004 and water became available last summer.

Common to both districts is the following discussion:

The Genesee County water charge is based on your actual water usage from 10-1-03 to 9-30-04 at 60 cents per thousand gallons of water. This surcharge pays for the County water project, which makes public water possible to your district. All county water users have the similar charge to pay for the County water line project.

If you have questions about the water district debt charges still, please contact Supervisor Shelley Stein at 768-6910, ext. 231.

Water districts by law are a reflection of landowner needs, asking for a special benefit, made possible through Town Board action. Town Board does not have authority to act on a special benefit district unless directed by a majority of 51% of population and assessed value of a prescribed area.

Next board meeting, Thursday, January 27, 2005 we are holding a public hearing for Linwood Road Light District. The Town has received a request to locate streetlights along a section of Linwood Road. All of the cost will be borne by the residents in the prescribed area. The public hearing is to listen to comments made by the residents. After which, the board will act as requested by the majority of the residents.

Also on Thursday, January 27, 2005 the Town Board will be responding to an informal water petition from Perry Road residents. The Town will share all of the gathered information and receive direction from the Perry Road residents as to the next move. As with both issues we hope to have participation from both of these groups seeking to have special benefit districts created on their behalf.

Departmental Reports:

Code Enforcement: Please take note that land separations must come to the Town Planning Board for prior approval, unless it is an Agricultural separation of a minimum of 10 acres each parcel. This prior approval speeds up the building permit process. To aid in the sharing of this information, all local attorneys have been sent this reminder.

A comment to share from Zoning Enforcement Officer, some of the debris that has been neglected of late has been removed. Thank you.

Assessor: At this time review of Village properties is taking place for the 2005 assessment role. If you notice the car, please know that photos are also being taken for the property record information card in our system.

Also we have received from NYS Office of Real property Executive Director Tom Griffen an “Excellence in Equity Award” for the work of our Assessor, Beth Hiscutt. This award is granted to municipalities that conduct reassessments at 100% value. Our Assessor, Beth Hiscutt is to be commended for providing fair assessments and meeting high standards for assessment administration. We join the NYS Office of Real Property Services in congratulating Beth on a job well done!

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Property taxes are accepted at Town Hall, Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Also she has office hours on Thursdays through the month of January until 7:00 pm for your convenience.

Property tax bills must be paid in full, no partial payments are accepted.

Property owners are reminded, if your property taxes are to be paid by escrow account, you are still responsible to confirm the payment. All late fees apply as shown on the property tax bill. Tax collectors are accepting taxes until March 31, 2005. All unpaid taxes will be turned over to the Genesee County Treasurer after that date. If you have questions, please call Patty Canfield at 768-6910, ext. 224.

Recreation: Opportunities are found in this issue of the Pennysaver.

Highway Department: Superintendent Jerry Roth reports that along with taking great care of our roads, the staff is completing equipment repair and maintenance of summer equipment.

The number of snow plowing and salting trips for the season are down from last year so far.

Our congratulations for the following achievements:

Genesee County 2004 Soil & Water Conservation District Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Mowacres Farm II on January 11, 2005. The families of Lewis Mowry III, Lewis Mowry IV and William Mowry are to be commended for their commitment to environmental care of the soil they work on and for. Environmental stewardship and neighbor relations also played a part in the Farm being selected for this award. As the Mowry family is active in the Agricultural Practices Committee for the Town, we add our applause to the efforts of this community minded family.

Receive a phone call last night to announce that LeRoy Business Council has been selected to receive a \$200,000.00 grant for Main Street Revitalization from the Governor’s Office. This strong and compelling grant application was selected as one of very few for funding. Senator Rath was pleased to share that LeRoy is the only grant selected in her district for funding. The grant underscores the impact of Smart Growth Planning with a commitment to focusing efforts on Main Street. Congratulations to LeRoy!

Please plan on joining us as your time allows, we meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00PM in the Town Hall. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact Patty Canfield prior to the meeting at 768-6910, ext.224.

Supervisor Shelley Stein 768-6910, ext 231.